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BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1946.

P. A. CROWLEY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.





Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.



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Tunbridge Wells :  
BALDWIN, GROSVENOR ROAD  
2728-47

# BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

## HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE :

(Constitution at 31st December, 1946).

THE MAYOR (Alderman T. C. ALLAN, J.P.).

Councillor F. S. HARRIES, LL.B. (Chairman).

Alderman Miss R. M. BAKER.

Councillor E. KENNARD.

Councillor L. S. BERWICK, J.P.

Councillor R. E. TOMSON.

Councillor R. H. BURSLEM, J.P.

Councillor Miss M. B. WELLS.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE :

THE MAYOR (Alderman T. C. ALLAN, J.P.)

Councillor Miss M. B. WELLS (Chairman).

Alderman Miss R. M. BAKER.

Councillor Mrs. U. HURD.

Councillor L. S. BERWICK, J.P.

Councillor E. KENNARD.

Councillor F. S. HARRIES, LL.B.

Councillor R. E. TOMSON.

### Co-opted Members :

Mrs. DAWES, Dr. M. I. HOUNSFIELD, Mrs. HARVEY,  
Miss E. WADDILOVE.

## STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

**Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare ;  
Medical Superintendent, Infectious Diseases Hospital ; Medical Officer, Day  
Nursery—**

ALEXANDER MEARNES, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (*died 22/3/46*).

W. R. TAYLOR, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (*appointed  
15/4/46*) (*resigned 31/12/46*).

### Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

P. A. CROWLEY, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H., (*returned 22/7/46*).

ANNE SIMPSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (*resigned 22/9/46*).

### Dental Surgeon :

A. W. McCARTHY, L.D.S. (V.U. Manc ).

### Dental Nurse Attendant :

Mrs. M. HARVEY.

### Senior Sanitary Inspector :

W. P. CAVE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat and Food Cert.

### Sanitary Inspectors :

A. BARNETT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Meat and Food Cert.

T. ELLISON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Meat and Food Cert. (*Appointed*

A. G. DAVIES, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Meat and Food Cert. (*resigned  
17/2/46*).

1/7/46).  
T. STEEL, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat  
and Food Cert.

### Health Visitors :

Miss M. BEER (*appointed 18/3/46*).

Miss M. E. PAGE (*resigned 12/1/46*).

Miss J. DONALDSON.

Miss E. RICE-OXLEY.

Miss M. McLAREN.



**Matron, Infectious Diseases Hospital :**Miss E. M. PYLE, S.R.N., R.F.N., (*resigned* 31/3/46).Miss M. AITCHISON, R.F.N., (*appointed* 1/4/46).**Matron, Day Nursery :**Mrs. A. THOMAS, R.S.C.N., (*Resigned* 24/12/46).**Deputy Matron :**Mrs. L. C. BELDER, S.R.N., S.C.M., (*promoted Acting Matron* 25/12/46).**Clerical Staff.****Administrative Assistant :**

H. M. COLES.

**Acting Chief Clerk :**

Mrs. D. E. TEBBIT.

C. H. WEEKES (*on war Service*).**Shorthand-Typist :**Mrs. N. DIAMOND (*Appointed* 4/2/46). (*Resigned* 14/12/46).Miss I. A. PEARSON (*Appointed* 30/12/46).**Clerks :**

Miss P. BURBIDGE.

D. A. BARMBY (*returned* 2/9/46).L. RICHARDSON (*appointed* 28/1/46).(*Resigned* 1/2/46).Miss H. ROBERTS (*appointed* 25/2/46).(*Resigned* 5/10/46).Miss J. PATERSON (*appointed* 14/10/46). (*Transferred to Day**Nursery* 6/11/46).Miss M. BEAUMONT (*appointed*

6/11/46).

**Part-time Clerk for Sale of D.F. and O.J. :**

Miss P. GIBBONS.

**Rodent Operators :**

B. E. MANN.

E. SMITHERMAN.

**Clinic Caretakers :**

Mr. and Mrs. W. GIBBONS.

**Relief Caretaker :**

Miss P. GIBBONS.

**Domestic—Home Helps Supervisor :**Mrs. SMITH (*Part-time*).**PART-TIME APPOINTMENTS.****Orthopaedic Surgeon :**

\*W. H. GERVIS, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.

**Ophthalmic Surgeon :**

\*J. COGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.O. (Oxon.).

**Aural Surgeon :**

\*J. SYMONS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Masseuse :**

\*Mrs. D. HUNT TREWEEK.

**Public Analyst :**

A. H. M. MUTER, F.I.C.

\* County Staff employed locally

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**BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.

The Report refers to the calendar year 1946, and, generally speaking, discloses a satisfactory position.

Reference was made in the last Report to the death of Major Mearns on the 22nd March, 1946, and on the 15th April, Dr. W. R. Taylor was appointed as temporary Medical Officer of Health. To him I owe a debt of gratitude for his good counsel during the latter period of 1946.

Dr. Taylor, in his preamble to the Report for 1945, referred to a warning issued by the Ministry of Health that a considerable increase in births was to be expected. The figures in this Report reveal that the warning was well justified as a birth rate of 18.6 is recorded. This appears, upon reference to previous Reports, to be the highest birth rate recorded since 1906.

Another point in the Report which calls for comment is the comparatively high infant mortality rate 55.6. This high rate is due almost entirely to 13 deaths recorded against gastro-enteritis. These cases occurred sporadically throughout the year and were not attributable to any one particular period or institution.



The Report deals with a period before I assumed office although I returned from military service as your Deputy Medical Officer of Health on the 22nd July, 1946.

On behalf of Dr. Taylor and myself, I wish to record appreciation of the courtesy and consideration received at all times from the members of the Committees and thanks to the staff of the Health Department for their loyal support during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. A. CROWLEY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SECTION 1.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS AND PHYSICAL  
FEATURES.

## 1 (a)—Summary of Statistics.

## 1 (a)—(i) GENERAL.

Area : 6,034 acres.

Population : 37,560 (R.G.'s Estimate 1946) 35,839 (R.G.'s estimate 1931).

Density of population, *i.e.*, number of persons per acre : 6.2.

Number of inhabited houses : 11,165.

Rateable value, 1946 : £479,071.

Sum produced by a penny rate : £1,914. 18s. 10.7d.

Mean Annual Temperature : 48.6°F.

Hours of Bright Sunshine, 1946 : 1,599 hours 24 minutes.

Total Rainfall, 1946 : 38.83 inches.

## 1 (a)—(ii) BIRTHS.

<i>Live Births (Registered) :</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate ... ..	636	305	334
Illegitimate ... ..	65	32	33
	<hr/>		
	701		
	<hr/>		

Live birthrate per 1,000 population : 18.6

Corresponding rate for 1945 : 13.84.

<i>(a)—(iii) Stillbirths :</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate ... ..	14	7	7
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1
	<hr/>		
	15		
	<hr/>		

Still birth rate per 1,000 births : 21.3.

## 1 (a)—(iv) DEATHS.

Males : 249. Females : 374. Total : 623.

Crude death rate per thousand of population : 16.5.

Corresponding rate for 1945 : 15.86.

1 (a)—(v) Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

Maternal mortality per 1,000 total registered births : Nil.

Comparative figure for England and Wales : 1.43.

## 1 (a)—(vi) INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year of age—

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate ... ..	39	18	21
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births : 55.6 (1945 : 47.3).

1 (a)—(vii) Total number of deaths from :	1945	1946
Measles (all ages) ... ..	1	—
Whooping-Cough (all ages) ... ..	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	19

1 (b)—Table showing Summary of Causes of Death during the year ended 31st December, 1946.

No.	Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	Typhoid Fever, etc. ... ..	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
4	Whooping-cough ... ..	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	6	1	7
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	2	3
8	Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	2	—	2
9	Influenza ... ..	3	5	8
10	Measles ... ..	—	—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
12	Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
13	Cancer of Buccal Cav., and Oesophagus (M.), Uterus (F.) ... ..	2	9	11
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	5	7	12
15	Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	10	10
16	Cancer of all other sites ... ..	29	43	72
17	Diabetes ... ..	1	3	4
18	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	28	70	98
19	Heart Disease ... ..	76	99	175
20	Other diseases of Circulatory System ...	11	18	29
21	Bronchitis ... ..	9	16	25
22	Pneumonia ... ..	10	18	28
23	Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	3	7	10
24	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	3	3	6
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	9	10	19
26	Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	3	7	10
28	Nephritis ... ..	9	5	14
29	Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis ...	—	—	—
30	Other Maternal causes ... ..	—	—	—
31	Premature Birth ... ..	3	3	6
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Dis. ... ..	4	2	6
33	Suicide ... ..	2	2	4
34	Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	3	—	3
35	Other violent causes ... ..	5	7	12
36	All other causes ... ..	22	27	49
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES ... ..	249	374	623



1 (c)—TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1946.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
	Live Births.	Still- Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid or Para- typhoid	Small- pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping- cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and En- teritis (un- der 2 yrs.).	Total Deaths Under 1 year.
England and Wales ... ..	19.1	0.53	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.15	4.4	43
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	22.2	0.67	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.13	6.1	46
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popu- lation 25,000 to 50,000, 1931 Census) ... ..	21.3	0.59	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.14	2.8	37
London Administrative County ...	21.5	0.54	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.12	4.2	41
TUNBRIDGE WELLS ... (Registrar-General's estimated population).	18.6	0.47	16.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	27.1	55.6

### 1 (d)—Physical Features and General Character.

The Borough covers over 6,000 acres and is exceptionally well wooded, with a considerable amount of pasturage in the southern portion. It lies high, most of the houses standing at a level between 300 and 450 feet above the sea. Its climate is therefore breezy and bracing, with sheltered areas in the valleys. The lowest point is 220 feet above sea level, the highest 500 feet, at Blackhurst Collecting Reservoir. It lies in the extreme south-west corner of Kent,  $34\frac{1}{2}$  miles from London. The sub-soil is mostly sandstone—the geological layer known as Tunbridge Wells Sandstone predominating ; there are several clay patches—the largest towards the north end of the Borough. Hence comes the great variety of the vegetation—fir trees, birches and heather on the sandstone surfaces ; oaks, beech, and all types of broad-leaved trees where clay patches intervene between the surface loam and the sandstone.

The water supplies are drawn partly from protected springs in sweet chestnut woods to the south-east of the Borough, and largely from borewells into a deep sandstone layer—the Hastings Bed of Sandstone, whose nearest outcrops are in Ashdown Forest. The water is pure and soft ; that obtained from the deep borewells passes through Candy pressure filters to remove its iron content before it is delivered to the town. All the water supply is chlorinated before entering the mains.

There are no industries of a large industrial type in the Borough, which is completely residential in character.

### 1 (e)—Population.

The population at mid-year, 1946, is estimated by the Registrar-General as 37,560, an increase of 2,450 over the figure for 1945.

Compared with the figures for 1945 (35,110) and 1944 (35,440) and having regard to comments in the Annual Reports for those years under this heading, the figure of 37,560 would appear to be a fair estimate of the present population of the Town.

A perusal of the statistics reveals that this is the highest population figure ever allotted to Tunbridge Wells.

#### 1 (f)—**Births.**

Live Births numbered 701 and Still Births 15 during the year; this figure is considerably higher than that for 1945.

In view of the large increase on the previous year, a perusal of the records from 1885 to date was made. It was observed that a birth rate of 18.6 is the highest figure recorded since 1906 when it was 19.3. It is interesting to note that the population figure in 1906 was 34,973 and the total number of births 676. A rate of 18.6 for 1946 is given by a total of 701 births against a population of 37,560. The figure of 701 births is the highest ever recorded, since printed statistics are available in 1885.

Reference may be made to the various tables showing details which reflect the strain put upon hospital and maternity home bed accommodation and on the District Midwives.

#### 1 (g)—**Deaths.**

There were 623 deaths, giving a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 16.5 as compared with 15.86 for 1945. This appears to be a high death rate compared with the figure for England and Wales (11.5). Allowances must be made, however, for the age distribution of the population in a town such as Tunbridge Wells. In previous years the figure has been adjusted by the application of a comparability factor of age and sex distribution of population but this year the



Registrar-General reports that “ the variety and magnitude of local population movements and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths have together combined to frustrate the attempt to secure comparability between local death rates by the use of Area Comparability Factors and the preparation and issue of such factors are being suspended under present conditions.”

It is gratifying to record that no maternal deaths were registered during 1946.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 39 giving an infantile mortality rate of 55.6 as against 47.3 for 1945. This increase is due almost entirely to 13 deaths attributed to gastro-enteritis.

#### 1 (h)—Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

During 1946, 39 infants died under one year of age. Of these 18 were boys and 21 were girls. The following table analyses the causes of death :—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Broncho. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

#### 1 (i)—Maternal Mortality.

No deaths are registered during 1946 from the conditions associated with child birth.



## SECTION 2.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

**2 (a)—Notifiable Diseases.**

Two hundred and thirteen cases of infectious disease were notified during 1946. The following tables give details of the seasonal and age incidence of, and the mortality from, these notifiable diseases :—

**2 (a)—(i) Seasonable Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1946.**

DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	6	7	4	2	1	—	3	4	3	3	8	5	46
Diphtheria ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	8
Pneumonia ...	4	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	14
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	6
Erysipelas ...	—	1	2	1	3	—	1	2	—	3	—	1	14
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	1	—	6	13	31	14	5	2	2	1	75
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Measles ...	—	1	—	—	9	8	14	2	3	1	2	1	41
Cerebro Spinal Fever (including Meningococcal Meningitis)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery (Sonne) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Pem. Neonatorum ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	16	16	13	4	21	23	50	26	11	11	12	10	213

2 (a) ii—AGES, ETC., OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1946.

Disease.	Total cases Notified. (All ages).	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 2 years.	2 years and under 3 years.	3 years and under 4 years.	4 years and under 5 years.	5 years and under 10 years.	10 years and under 15 years.	15 years and under 20 years.	20 years and under 35 years.	35 years and under 45 years.	45 years and under 65 years.	65 years and over	Age not given.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Deaths (In-habitants only).
Diphtheria ...	8	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	8	—
Scarlet Fever ...	46	—	3	5	3	3	16	8	2	2	1	3	—	—	40	—
Pneumonia ...	14	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	4	—	—	—	28
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	5	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	75	5	7	11	10	15	26	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	41	3	2	11	5	8	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever (including Meningococcal Meningitis)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery (Sonne) ...	4	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pem. Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	213	11	14	28	19	26	55	13	3	18	5	12	7	2	53	28

**2 (b)—Scarlet Fever.**

Forty-six cases were notified, as compared with 67 during 1945.

**2 (c)—Diphtheria.**

Eight cases of diphtheria were notified. No deaths were recorded.

**2 (d)—Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Six cases were notified during the year. Three of these patients were Borough residents.

**2 (e)—Measles and Whooping Cough.**

Forty-one cases of measles and 75 of Whooping Cough were notified. These figures are considerably lower than those for 1945.

**2 (f)—Borough Fever Hospital.**

This Hospital has an excellent situation with a southern exposure, standing over 400 feet above sea level. It occupies some six acres of ground, and has its own vegetable and fruit gardens.

The accommodation for patients remains unaltered at 52.

Difficulties in obtaining staff have been very great. In addition to the general nursing shortage, the smaller fever hospitals are handicapped by not being allowed to give a training course qualifying for a Fever Certificate. This disadvantage means that whatever nurses are available for fever training tend to be absorbed by the larger hospitals.

Patients are admitted from Tunbridge Wells and Southborough and from several adjacent districts.

The following tables will show the details of admissions for the year :—



**2 (g)—Cases admitted to Borough Fever Hospital, 1946.**

				Tun. Wells.	East Sussex.	South- borough Urban.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	40	4	6	50
Diphtheria	...	...	...	8	—	—	8
Measles	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Observation	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4	—	—	4
Mumps	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
Septic Tonsillitis	...	...	...	—	—	1	1
Totals	...	...	...	55	4	7	66

**2 (h)—Diphtheria Immunisation.**

The Immunisation Clinic was held once a week throughout 1946. The two-shot A.P.T. method of immunisation was used, and a Schick Test three months after the second injection was a routine measure as far as the co-operation of the parents would permit.

The following figures show the position at 31st December, 1946, as recorded in the return required by the Ministry of Health :—

Age at 31/12/46, i.e., born in year.	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5—9 1937—1941	10—14 1932—1936	Total under 15
Number Immun- ised ...	1	159	304	278	300	1,561	1,613	4,216
Estimated mid- year popula- tion, 1946 ...	2,660					4,360		7,020

The actual number of children immunised during 1946 was as follows :—

0— 4 years	...	...	...	...	335
5—14 „	...	...	...	...	71
Total	...	...	...	...	406



In the Annual Report for 1945 a table was prepared to show the progress in immunisation over the two age periods and this I have continued for 1946.

In Table 1 below details in respect of children under the age of 5 at the 31st December, 1946, are given and the figures shown refer to the child population " at risk " at that date :

It has been the practice not to immunise children until one year of age and in order to obtain the comparative figure of children immunised in the whole of the age group it will be necessary to add the notified live births for 1946 to the figure in the second column. This produces a child population in this age Group of 2,885 and the percentage of children immunised then becomes 36.1.

In Table 2 similar figures are given for the age Group 5 to 14 and the percentage of children immunised is 77.1.

During the latter months of 1946 plans were made for a concerted drive on immunisation during 1947 and it is hoped that this will result in an improvement in the figure of children immunised in the 0 to 4 Group. It is of course essential that the percentage in the lower Group should be maintained as high as possible in order that the children attaining 5 years and passing into the higher Group may not take forward a percentage which will reduce the comparatively good figure in this group.

# 1.

No. of Births actually notified in :—(corrected)		No. of those who up to 31/12/46 had been immunised.	Per cent. Immunised.
Year.	No.		
1942	548	300	54.7
1943	545	278	51.0
1944	605	304	50.2
1945	486	159	32.7
	2,184	1,041	47.6

## 2.

No. of Births actually notified in :—(corrected)		No. of those who up to 31/12/46 had been immunised.	Per cent. Immunised.
Year	No.		
1932	402	1,613	78.1
1933	401		
1934	443		
1935	391		
1936	427		
1937	410	1,561	76.1
1938	369		
1939	420		
1940	398		
1941	454		
	4,115	3,174	77.1

## 2 (i)—Tuberculosis.

The Kent County Council are responsible for cases of Tuberculosis occurring within the district, also for sanatorium treatment and hospital accommodation for Tunbridge Wells residents.

A Dispensary is held weekly at 34, Calverley Street, by a wholetime Tuberculosis Officer who attends on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.

In the Tables which follow particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during 1946 are shown in Table 2, whilst Table 1 shows the quarterly statements of cases on the register. The position at the 31st December, 1946, is shown in Table 3.

## 2 (j)—(i)

	1st Quarter.			2nd Quarter.			3rd Quarter.			4th Quarter.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>												
Number of cases on register	72	59	131	74	58	132	77	61	138	79	64	143
New notifications ...	3	2	5	3	4	7	3	5	8	3	4	7
Cases removed and subsequently restored	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other cases added to register (inward transfers) ...	2	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
Cases removed (removed, recovered, died) ...	3	4	7	—	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	4
Cases remaining on register	74	58	132	77	61	138	79	64	143	80	68	148
<i>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>												
Number of cases on register	35	32	67	34	30	64	34	30	64	34	29	63
New notifications ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1
Cases removed and subsequently restored	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other cases added (inward transfers) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed (removed, recovered, died) ...	1	2	3	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—
Cases remaining on register	34	30	64	34	30	64	34	29	63	35	29	64

## 2 (j)—(ii)

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non. Pul.		Pulmonary.*		Non-Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25... ..	1	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
25—35... ..	3	4	1	—	2	—	1	—
35—45... ..	2	3	1	—	1	1	—	—
45—55... ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65... ..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Over 65 ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	11	16	3	—	4	3	1	—



## 2 (j)—(iii).

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pul.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pul.	Total.
	Male.		Female.		
Cases on Register at beginning of year...	72	35	59	32	198
Cases added ... ..	14	3	19	—	36
Cases removed	6	3	10	3	22
Remaining ... ..	80	35	68	29	212

## 2 (k)—Scabies.

A Cleansing Station is provided at the Central Clinic. Cases were treated as follows :—

Cases Notified.		Cases Treated (including second Treatment).		No. of Families involved.
From Clinic.	Other Sources.	Showing symptoms.	Not showing symptoms but treated as a precautionary measure.	
284	83	364	3	236

## 2 (l)—Laboratory Facilities.

There is a small Laboratory attached to the Public Health Department where routine examinations are made.

During 1946 examinations were carried out as follows :—

Specimen.				Positive.	Negative.
Swabs—Throat for K.L.B.	...	...	...	21	93
Nose       "       "	...	...	...	3	26
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	1	2
Totals				25	121

The Laboratory at County Hall, Maidstone, deals with all other investigations for the Borough.



## SECTION 3.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  
SERVICES.**3 (a)—Maternity and Child Welfare.**

The Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme is a comprehensive one, providing :—

- (i) Infant Welfare Clinics, three sessions a week (two at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Calverley Terrace, and one at Rusthall).
- (ii) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics—two sessions a week.
- (iii) Dental Scheme for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children.
- (iv) A Day Nursery.
- (v) Co-operation with the local Maternity Home and financial assistance with necessitous Borough cases admitted there.
- (vi) A comprehensive agreement with the Kent County Council for the admission of cases to the Pembury Maternity Block.
- (vii) An agreement with the Kent and Sussex Hospital for the admission of emergency maternity cases to the Hospital.

## 3 (b) — Analysis of Birth Notifications.

Notified during month.	Births.				Sex.		Legitimacy.			Notified by.										
	Live.	Stillborn.		Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Leg.	Illeg.	Total	Drs.	Mid.	Total.							
		M.	F.																	
January	a 87	b 3	a —	b —	a 90	b 54	a 40	b 24	a 75	b 42	a 15	b 12	a 90	b 54	a 16	b 4	a 74	b 50	a 90	b 50
February	89	1	—	—	90	54	39	22	77	42	13	12	90	54	12	7	78	47	90	54
March	82	1	—	—	83	47	40	23	71	37	12	10	83	47	14	5	69	42	83	47
April ...	96	1	—	—	97	56	49	29	86	47	11	9	97	56	20	6	77	50	97	56
May ...	87	2	1	—	93	69	47	30	78	57	15	12	93	69	12	7	81	62	93	69
June ...	107	—	1	4	108	61	56	28	94	47	14	14	108	61	23	5	85	56	108	61
July ...	106	1	—	—	108	52	50	28	100	46	8	6	108	52	27	15	81	37	108	52
August	106	2	—	—	110	60	51	25	99	52	11	8	110	60	19	8	91	52	110	60
Sept. ...	106	2	2	—	108	65	54	32	95	54	13	11	108	65	15	8	93	57	108	65
October	108	—	2	—	110	63	56	30	102	55	8	8	110	63	16	5	94	58	110	63
Nove'ber	91	1	—	—	92	53	40	27	84	45	8	8	92	53	12	5	80	48	92	53
Dece'ber	95	3	2	—	100	52	46	27	97	50	3	2	100	52	23	10	77	42	100	52
Total Births notified	1160	17	12	—	1189	686	603	586	1058	574	131	112	1189	686	209	85	980	601	1189	686
Outward transfers	665	11	10	—	686	—	361	325	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net Boro. Births	495	6	2	—	503	—	242	261	484	—	19	—	503	—	124	—	379	—	503	—

Borough Live Births as per Birth Register... 495 ... 8 Total 503  
 Inward Transfers ... 201 ... 7 " 208

... 606 ... 15 ... 711

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

... 606

### 3 (c)—Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following tables will show the attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinics and Ante-Natal Clinics during 1946.

#### 3 (c)—(i) Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres, 1946.

	Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		TOTALS.	
	1946 (52 sessions).	1945 (50 sessions).	1946 (51 sessions).	1945 (50 sessions).	1946 (52 sessions).	1945 (50 sessions).	1946	1945
Number of attendances—Infants under one year of age.	1445	1106	663	438	1202	1036	3310	2580
Number of attendances—Children one to five years of age.	780	688	663	547	557	467	2000	1702
Number of attendances by Mothers	2067	1642	1037	874	1674	1439	4778	3955
Total Attendances ... ..	4292 (83)	3436 (69)	2363 (46)	1859 (37)	3433 (66)	2942 (59)	10088	8237
Consultations with Medical Officer:								
Infants ... ..	632	539	339	149	565	457	1536	1145
Children ... ..	355	369	326	202	274	254	955	825
Totals ... ..	987 (19)	908 (18)	665 (13)	351 (7)	839 (16)	711 (14)	2491	1970

NOTE—Figures in brackets denote the approximate average attendances per session.



### 3 (c)—(ii) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic.

The Clinic functioned throughout the year. Two sessions a week were held on Monday and Friday afternoons with a total of 331 individual cases attending during the 60 sessions.

	Borough Residents.					
	Primiparae.		Multiparae.		Total.	
	1946	1945	1946	1945	1946	1945
Individual Expectant Mothers	147		184		331	
Consultations ... ..		73		123		196
	291	128	456	295	747	423

### 3 (d)—Health Visiting, 1946.

	First Visits.	Subsequent Visits.	Total.
(a) Expectant Mothers ... ..	273	143	416
(b) Children under 1 year of age ...	572	920	1,492
(c) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... ..	—	—	2,073
(d) Where infants have died (including stillbirths) ... ..	—	—	29
(e) Found "no-one at home" ... ..	—	—	792
<i>Child Life Protection :</i>			
(a) Houses inspected for the first time ...			16
(b) Re-visits to foster mothers ... ..			29
(c) Foster children seen for the first time			19
(d) Foster children re-inspected ... ..			109
(e) Visits <i>re</i> adoption ... ..			4

### 3 (e)—Pembury Hospital.

This large hospital, under the control of the Kent County Council, is situate outside, but near, the Borough boundary. The Council have an agreement with the County Council whereby maternity cases from the Borough are accommodated. This agreement provides for the reception of maternity cases on the grounds of :

- (i) insufficient suitable home circumstances :



(ii) patients for whom hospitalisation is desirable on medical grounds.

Cases are referred from the Borough Ante-Natal Clinic and if a bed is available a voucher is issued by which the Corporation accept financial responsibility. The County Accountant assesses incomes and collects fees, and the Council pay the difference between the fee assessed and collected and the total cost. Private practitioners may also refer cases under this scheme, those on medical grounds being subject only to a formal ratification by the Medical Officer of Health. Those on the grounds of home circumstances are investigated by the Department before approval is given. The shortage of maternity beds has rendered it necessary to institute a very strict system of allocation, as beds, for other than those requiring accommodation on medical grounds, are limited.

During 1946 vouchers were issued as follows :—

<i>Reasons.</i>					<i>No. of vouchers issued.</i>
Health	...	...	...	...	44
Unsuitable home accommodation					48
Health and accommodation				...	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...		5
					—
					110
					==

Emergency maternity cases have been admitted to the Kent and Sussex Hospital throughout the year, and in October 1946, the Council formulated an agreement with the Hospital whereby they accepted financial liability for emergency maternity cases admitted.

During 1946, nine cases were admitted under this arrangement, the total amount contributed by the Corporation being £78. 9s. 2d.

### 3 (f)—Orthopaedic Treatment.

During the year, 39 children under school age were seen by Mr. W. H. Gervis, the Orthopaedic Specialist, at his monthly Clinic.

### 3 (g)—Dental Treatment.

Seventy-one Mothers and 24 pre-school children made 104 and 29 attendances respectively for dental treatment. The following is a summary of the treatment given :—

<i>No. of Treatments :</i>			
Temporary teeth extracted	...		39
Permanent   ,,       ,,	...		36
Temporary teeth filled	...	...	6
Permanent   ,,       ,,	...	...	48
Permanent teeth—other operations			33

### 3 (h)—Infant Life Protection.

At the 31st December, 1946, the Infant Life Protection Register showed that there were 21 individual Foster Mothers registered in the District, and at that date 32 children were in their care. In addition, St. Christopher's Nursery Training College was registered as having the care of 101 children, whilst a Private Residential Nursery had the care of 10 children.

A perusal of the Child Life Protection Register reveals that individual Foster Mothers received into their care 56 children and that 327 children passed through the care of St. Christopher's. The private Residential Nursery received 86 children.

Continuous supervision was given by the Health Visitors throughout the year and the figures of their inspections are given in the table of Health Visitors' visits.

This Report would be incomplete without a reference to the help given at various times throughout the year by

Inspector Harris of the N.S.P.C.C. Generally speaking, the help given has been of an informal nature and in many instances the friendly co-operation of the local Inspector is of material assistance in dealing with the many problems which the Sanitary Inspectors and Health Visitors meet.

### **3 (i)—Issue of Auxiliary Foods.**

During 1946 auxiliary foods were distributed through the Infant Welfare Clinics at cost price to the value of £175. 16s. 8d. and food to the value of £1. 12s. 5d. was given free of charge to necessitous cases.

### **3 (j)—Day Nursery.**

The Day Nursery functioned throughout the year, accommodation is provided for 56 children (26 places for 0-2 years and 30 places for 2-5 years).

As from the 1st April, 1946, the administration of the Day Nursery was vested in the Local Authority who acquired the equipment, fittings, etc., under the arrangements set out in Ministry of Health Circular 63/46.

Throughout the year the accommodation was fully occupied and for a greater part of the year a waiting list, varying up to as many as 20 names, was in existence. Children of mothers resident in Tunbridge Wells are given preference of admission but, if vacancies arise, children normally resident outside the Borough whose Mothers are working in the town are admitted. Admission is strictly reserved for children of Mothers who are gainfully employed. A priority scheme of admission has been in operation so that where the Mother is the sole support of the family the children have been admitted in preference to those where both the Mother and Father were working.

An investigation carried out in December, 1946, regarding (1) age distribution, (2) the length of stay at the Nursery, and (3) the future need for the Nursery, as evidenced by (a) home



circumstances, and (b) the type of employment in which the Mothers were engaged, revealed figures as set out below.

(1) AGE DISTRIBUTION :

Under 1 year.	1—2 years.	2—3 years.	3—4 years.	4—5 years.	Total.
4	7	20	11	12	54

(2) LENGTH OF STAY IN NURSERY.

The length of stay is an interesting factor in Nursery provision. The following figures show the use to which the Nursery has been put. These are based on the children registered at the Nursery on the 31st December, 1946.

1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	12—18 months	18—24 months	2—3 years	Over 3 years	Total
11	12	8	1	3	7	8	4	54

(3) NEED FOR THE NURSERY AS EVIDENCED BY THE HOME CIRCUMSTANCES.

The following facts have been gleaned from the Mothers individually. In all cases the Mothers are working.

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
(a) Mother sole support of child(ren) ...	22	26
(b) Mother and father working ...	19	20
(c) Mother working : father with H.M.F.	8	8
	—	—
	49	54
	==	==

Two Mothers had more than one child in the Nursery.



## EMPLOYMENT OF THE MOTHERS.

This table shows the nature of the Mothers' work.

Category.	Mother's Employment.					
	Cleri- cal.	Domes- tic.	Shop work.	Nurs- ing.	Indus- try.	Total.
(a) Mother sole support of child(ren) ...	2	12	6	—	2	22
(b) Mother and father working ...	3	9	6	1	—	19
(c) Mother working : father with H.M.F.	2	4	2	—	—	8
Total ...	7	25	14	1	2	49

### 3 (k)—Home and Domestic Help Schemes.

The Home and Domestic Help Schemes functioned throughout the year, hampered continuously by insufficient workers.

Owing to the difficulty in recruiting helpers the Schemes functioned with identical staff, the labour being allocated to the best advantage between the two schemes. This pooling of labour gives several advantages : (1) retaining fees are unnecessary because the helpers are continuously employed ; (2) the helper has a variety of employment ; (3) Maternity or Home Help cases being given first priority are never refused or cancelled owing to lack of help or overlapping of Home Help bookings.

The success of these Schemes depends in no small measure on the standard of the worker recruited and the conscientious discharge of her duties. At the end of the year 6 helpers were registered.

The Council has been fortunate in obtaining the services of a loyal staff of helps and two of the Domestic Helps who were engaged in the early days of the Scheme are still employed.

There were 98 cases booked during the year of which 81 were Domestic Help and 17 Home Help cases. One Home Help and 2 Domestic Help cases were cancelled and 79 Domestic and 16 Home Help cases were attended.

In 28 cases attendances were made by more than one Helper for various reasons, mainly the undertaking of short periods of assistance whilst waiting for full-time booked cases.

In Table 1 below figures are given of the number of cases attended, the number of days worked, and the number of hours worked by each Help in connection with both Schemes (the figures being given separately).

Table 2 shows a précis of the number of hours of work given to individual cases in respect of Domestic Help and Table 3 gives similar information for Home Help cases.

Both Schemes involve a considerable amount of administrative and clerical work occasioned by the need to personally interview applicants for help, the assessing of fees to be paid, and the keeping of the detailed records which are necessary.

The Helps are paid 1s. 6d. per hour, plus travelling expenses. In order to certify timesheets, collect fees due, and give general outside supervision the services of a part-time female Supervisor are retained.

Table I.

Domestic/Home Help No.	Domestic Help Scheme.			Home Help Scheme.		
	Cases At- tended.	No. of days worked.	No. of hours worked.	Cases At- tended.	No. of days worked.	No. of hours worked.
3	3	13	27	—	—	—
5	17	361	1,600	3	33½	157
6	21	232½	1,358	8	98	706½
9	1	12	72	—	—	—
10	7	42	253½	1	9	77
11	16	183	1,038½	4	50	294
12	10	33	118	—	—	—
13	4	18	63	—	—	—
14	2	13	50	—	—	—
15	3	5	13	—	—	—
16	6	28	78	1	17	125
17	2	3	9	—	—	—
18	5	37	112	—	—	—
19	2	40	320	2	30	232
20	5	55	341	—	—	—
21	6	39	106	2	19	60
	110	1,114½	5,609	21	256½	1,651½

### Table II.

## DOMESTIC HELP.

2	cases had help for a period exceeding 300 hours.
3	" " " " " " of from 250 to 299 hours.
1	" " " " " " " " 200 " 250 "
5	" " " " " " " " 150 " 199 "
11	" " " " " " " " 100 " 149 "
15	" " " " " " " " 50 " 99 "
13	" " " " " " " " 30 " 49 "
18	" " " " " " " " 10 " 29 "
12	" " " " " " " " Under 9 "
<hr/>	
79	cases
<hr/> <hr/>	

Table III.

## HOME HELP.

1	case	was	attended	for	a	period	exceeding	200	hours.
1	„	„	„	„	„	„	between	150	to 199 hours.
5	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	100	„ 149 „
4	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	75	„ 99 „
3	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	50	„ 74 „
1	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	40	„ 49 „
1	„	„	„	„	„	„	„	20	„ 29 „
<hr/>									
17	cases								



### **3 (l)—Premature Infants (Circular 20/44).**

All Birth Cards now carry a space for an indication of the birth of Premature Infants with the necessary details regarding birth weight, etc. In addition a special form has been compiled which is completed in respect of each premature birth, its details being such as to allow of the completion of Section 7 of Form M.C.W. 96.

### **3 (m)—Illegitimate Children (Circular 2866).**

In accordance with the provisions of this Circular, the Council carries out its obligations in co-operation with the Local Branch of the Rochester Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare, on whose Committee the Council has two members. Detailed reports of all cases dealt with are submitted to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee each month when assistance towards fees in necessitous cases is dealt with. The Council make an annual grant of £200 to the Association for their work in this connection.

Ninety-seven new cases involving illegitimate children and their mothers have been dealt with by the Association during 1946. Twelve were sent away to Diocesan Homes and were paid for by the Borough. Four were admitted for Ante or Post-Natal treatment, paying their own expenses.

Forty-one cases were dealt with by the Association and paid for by the Kent County Council while they were at the County Council Hostels.

### **3 (n)—Tunbridge Wells and District Nursing Association.**

I should like in this Report to make some reference to the cordial relations existing between the Superintendent of the District Nursing Association and this Department.

The increasing number of births and the limitation on the number of maternity beds available in hospitals and maternity homes have thrown a considerable strain on the



work of the Association and the friendly contact existing is very much appreciated.

### **3 (o)—Supply of Sheets for Expectant Mothers.**

Priority dockets on Certificates from doctors and midwives were issued throughout the year in accordance with the provisions of Circular 154/44.

Six hundred and seven vouchers were issued to two hundred and three expectant mothers during 1946.

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## **SECTION 4.**

### **HOSPITALS, MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES, NURSING IN THE HOME, AMBULANCE FACILITIES AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.**

#### **4 (a)—The Kent and Sussex Hospital.**

This Hospital is well equipped for dealing with all forms of medical, surgical and radiological treatment.

#### **4 (b)—The Homœopathic Hospital.**

Is a comfortable, airy, and well-lighted building, with a sunshine balcony looking on to the Common.

The friendly co-operation of the Medical, Nursing and Almoners' Staff at both the Kent and Sussex and Homœopathic Hospitals is much appreciated.

#### **4 (c)—Smallpox Hospital.**

The Conjoint Smallpox Hospital catering for the south-west portion of Kent, is situated at Capel : it accommodates 18 adult patients. There were no admissions from Tunbridge Wells during 1946. This hospital is leased temporarily to the Kent County Council, who provide staff from Pembury Hospital should occasion to treat smallpox cases arise.

#### 4 (d)—Tunbridge Wells and District Maternity Home.

This Home is a large, well-built house, which is admirably adapted to its purpose. There are labour rooms on the first and ground floors, and accommodation for 27 patients. It is run by a voluntary Committee, of which the Medical Officer of Health is a member. Its patients come from a wide area around the town, and it was not possible to accommodate all applicants during 1946. Four hundred and ninety-one cases were admitted during the year, of which 202 were Borough residents.

The Council make a grant of £50 each year to the Maternity Home, and in necessitous cases they grant assistance with the fees. During 1946, 12 cases were assisted the total sum expended being £31. 10s. 0d.

#### 4 (e)—Nursing Homes.

	Number of Homes.	Number of beds provided for :		
		Maternity.	Others.	Total.
(a) Homes first registered during the year ...	1	—	20	20
(b) Homes on the register at the end of the year	16	5	165	170

#### *Action during 1946 :—*

Number of applications for registration refused	...	Nil
„ exemptions granted under Section 192(1)...		3
„ exemptions withdrawn under Section 192(2)		Nil
„ registrations cancelled under Section 188 ...		Nil
„ of appeals by aggrieved persons to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, under Section 189 (3)		Nil
„ of cases in which fines were imposed	...	Nil
„ inspections	... ..	18
„ registered homes not inspected	... ..	3

The inspections are carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, who also supervises the adaptation of fresh premises for nursing home purposes, paying as many visits as occasion requires.

#### **4 (f)—Ambulance Facilities.**

There are five ambulances in the Borough. One is garaged at the Isolation Hospital and is used only for infectious cases. For non-infectious and accident cases, the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade possesses three ambulances, and one is run by the local Police Force. The St. John Ambulance Brigade provide facilities for removing maternity cases.

#### **4 (g)—Nursing in the Home.**

(a) General.—Nursing in the Home is undertaken by the local District Nursing Association. This Association also undertakes the majority of the domiciliary midwifery cases in the Borough.

(b) Midwives.—The Midwives' Acts as far as they relate to the Borough are administered through the Kent County Council as the local Supervising Authority.

#### **4 (h)—School Health Service.**

The School Health Service now under the administrative charge of the Kent County Council, is operated from the Clinic in Calverley Terrace. The Medical Officer of Health undertakes for the County certain administrative supervision and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health undertakes five sessions a week clinical work in this connection.



## SECTION 5.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to Mr. W. P. Cave, Senior Sanitary Inspector, for the preparation of the details in this, and section six, of the Report.

## 5 (a)—Water Supplies.

Water is drawn from the same sources as reported in previous years, namely springs around the Pembury area, and from deep borewells. All Corporation supplies are chlorinated, and have been satisfactory both as to quality and quantity throughout the year.

Bacteriological and chemical analyses were undertaken throughout the year as follows :—

Source of Sample.	Examinations.	
	Bacteriological.	Chemical.
No. from Public Supplies (treated)	48	36
"      "      "      "      (unreated)	1	1
	49	37

The regulations require that lead pipes shall not be used for water supplies. Practically 100 per cent of the dwelling-houses in the Borough have a piped supply of water.

## 5 (b)—Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewage from the Borough drains towards the North and South Sewage Farms, in which no major changes were made during the year.

## 5 (c)—Closet Accommodation.

No earth closets exist in the Borough. Sixty water closets empty into cesspools which are emptied periodically by the Borough Surveyor's staff.



**5 (d)—Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

The arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse continued throughout the year. The site at which controlled tipping is carried out is situate outside the populated part of the district.

**5 (e)—Schools.**

All schools in the Borough are supplied with town water and are connected to the public sewers. Milk supplied to schools is Pasteurised in all cases but one, in which case Tuberculin Tested milk is supplied.

**5 (f)—Swimming Baths and Pools.**

The Corporation own indoor and open-air baths.

**5 (g)—Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

Forty-one houses were disinfected by "Zaldecide" spraying. Sprays are loaned to the occupants of infested premises.

**5 (h)—Rats and Mice Destruction.**

The Council employed two Rodent Operators throughout the year. Two additional operators were appointed in December in connection with the special survey under the Ministry of Food "Private Dwelling Scheme" which was still in progress at the end of the year.

Three hundred and six complaints regarding infestation by rats and/or mice were received and dealt with.

**Table No. 1.**—The following table gives a general summary of the work carried out during the year 1946 :—

	<i>Number</i>
Houses inspected under the Housing Act...	3
Premises inspected other than under the Housing Act ...	883
Complaints investigated ...	384
Visits to Slaughter Houses ...	743
„ „ Bakehouses ...	47
„ „ Restaurants and Kitchens ...	26
„ „ Dairies ...	99
„ „ Cowsheds ...	65
„ „ Ice Cream Premises ...	33
„ „ Other Food Premises ...	305
„ „ Factories ...	63
„ „ Workplaces ...	1
„ „ Licensed Premises ...	2
„ „ Verminous Premises ...	25
„ <i>re</i> Keeping of Animals ...	17
„ „ Rat or Mice Infestation ...	73
„ „ Overcrowding ...	40
„ „ Infectious Diseases ...	38
„ „ Smoke Nuisances ...	1
Other Visits ...	435
Interviews respecting properties ...	304
Rooms Disinfected ...	31
Smoke test to drains ...	6
Water test to drains... ..	57
Informal notices served ...	433
Formal „ „ ...	42
„ „ „ complied with ...	Nil
Defects remedied ...	966
Food condemned and destroyed—42 tons 7 cwts. 0 qrts. 24½ lbs.	
Carcases of home killed meat examined in slaughter houses ...	13,381
Samples of food and drugs examined by Public Analyst ...	106
„ „ „ found below standard (see note of Food and Drugs table regarding samples of cake mixture) ...	1

**Table No. 2.—Housing**—The following information is in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

	<i>Number</i>
<b>1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—</b>	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	886
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2,299
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	3
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	25
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	435
<b>2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—</b>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers...	419

**3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—****(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...				Nil

**(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	41
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...		Nil

**(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	Nil

**(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	Nil

**4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—**

No exact figures available. Overcrowding is undoubtedly on the increase and cannot be relieved until new housing is available.

**Table No. 3—Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

Number

**(a) Milk Supply :—**

Licences in force at the end of the year :—

Dealers' Licences : Tuberculin tested milk	...	...	...	6
" " Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Licences—Tuberculin tested milk	...	...	...	1
Pasteurisers' Licences	...	...	...	4
Licences to bottle tuberculin tested milk	...	...	...	1
Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough	...	...	...	16
" " " " licensed for the production of tuberculin tested milk	...	...	...	5
" " " " licensed for the production of Accredited milk	...	...	...	2
" " visits to cowsheds	...	...	...	65
" " " " dairies	...	...	...	99

47 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and 103 samples to the prescribed tests for pasteurised milk at the County Laboratory.

**(b) Meat and Other Foods :—**

Number of Government controlled slaughter-houses in use	...	2
" " visits to slaughter-houses	...	743
" " " " other food premises (excluding bake-houses)	...	338
" " home-killed carcasses examined at time of slaughter	...	13,381



## (c) Details of Food Condemned :—

Item of Food :	Weight :				Tubercular weight :				
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	
Beef (home-killed) ...	22	10	0	11	including	19	0	1	26
„ (offals) ...	14	8	1	6	„	9	10	2	24
Mutton „	...	4	2	14					
„ (offals) „	...	10	3	12½					
Pork „	...	12	2	1	„	5	0	21	
„ (offals) „	...	4	0	16	„	2	3	5	
Veal „	...		2	3	„				
„ (offals) „	...			23	„			11	
Biscuits ...	...			3					
Brawn, etc. ...	...			5½					
Bread ...	...			8½					
Butter ...	...	1	0	0					
Cake Mixtures, etc. ...	...	1	1	6½					
Cereals ...	...		2	20½					
Cheese ...	...		1	6½					
Cocoa ...	...	2	0	4					
Cream (salad)...	...			14					
Eggs (dried) ...	...			14					
Eggs (shell) ...	...		1	17					
Fish (Cakes) ...	...		3	5½					
Fish (canned) ...	...	1	3	20½					
Fish (Cured) ...	...	13	0	9					
Fish (fresh) ...	...	16	2	1					
Flour ...	...		2	1					
Fruit (Canned) ...	...	1	1	20½					
Fruit (Dried) ...	...		2	0½					
Gravy Thickener ...	...			1					
Jam ...	...		1	6					
Macaroni Cheese ...	...			5					
Marmalade ...	...		1	9					
Meat (canned) ...	...	11	2	4					
Meat (canned with vegetables) ...	...			22					
Meat (cured) ...	...			12½					
Meat (fresh) ...	...	2	0	10					
Meat (imported) ...	...	2	0	24					
Milk (canned) ...	...	6	0	6½					
Milk (dried) ...	...	2	0	5					
Mincemeat ...	...			3					
Pastes (Meat and Fish)	...			0½					
Pickles ...	...			1					
Pies (Pork) ...	...			20					
Poultry and Game ...	...	1	2	28					
Preserves ...	...			3					
Pudding (canned) ...	...			2					
Rolls (Jam) ...	...		1	9½					
Rolls (Swiss) ...	...			5					
Sauce ...	...			8½					
Sausages and Sausage Meat ...	...			19½					
Shellfish (fresh) ...	...	1	3	24					
Soups (Canned) ...	...		1	8½					
Spaghetti ...	...			1					
Sugar ...	...		1	0					
Sweets (including chocolate) ...	...	1	3	6½					
Syrup (golden) ...	...			8					
Tea ...	...			1½					
Vegetables (canned) ...	...	3	0	23½					

Total weight food condemned : 42 tons 7 cwts. 0 qtrs. 24½ lbs.,

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ... ..	2994	1330	119	8190	748
Number inspected ... ..	2994	1330	119	8190	748
All diseases except Tuber- culosis :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	2	15	1	10	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	534	306	4	508	26
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	18.20%	24.13%	4.2%	6.32%	4.27%
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	20	64	1	—	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	316	432	5	—	26
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	11.22%	37.29%	5.04%	Nil	4.54%

TOTAL CARCASSES INSPECTED ... 13,381.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.**  
**Number and Description of Samples analysed by the Public Analyst.**

Nature of Article.	Examined.			Adulterated			Remarks.
	Formal.	Informal	Total	Formal.	Informal	Total	
Aspirin Tablets ...	—	1	1				
Baking Powder ...	—	2	2				
Bicarbonate of Soda...	—	1	1				
Bisto ...	—	1	1				
Boracic Powder ...	—	1	1				
Butter ...	—	2	2				
Cake Flour ...	—	1	1				
Cake Mixture ...	—	2	2		1	1	One sample of Cake Mixture was found to be deficient of Bicarbonate of Soda and a warning was given.
Camphorated Oil ...	—	1	1				
Castor Oil ...	—	1	1				
Chocolate Cup ...	—	1	1				
Cocoa ...	—	2	2				
Cooking Fat ...	—	2	2				
Culinary Essence ...	—	1	1				
Custard Powder ...	—	2	2				
Epsom Salts ...	—	1	1				
Eucalyptus Oil ...	—	1	1				
Fish Paste—Bloater ...	—	1	1				
Flour—National ...	—	1	1				
Flour—Pea ...	—	1	1				
Gravy Browning ...	—	1	1				
Ground Cinnamon ...	—	1	1				
Liver Sausage ...	—	2	2				
Malt Cup ...	—	1	1				
Margarine ...	—	2	2				
Meat and Veg. Extract ...	—	1	1				
Milk ...	39	—	39				
Mustard ...	—	1	1				
Mustard—French ...	—	1	1				



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT—continued.

Nature of Article.	Examined.			Adulterated.			Remarks.
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total	
Mustard Preparation...	—	1	1				
Orange Flavouring ...	—	1	1				
Pepper—Black ...	—	2	2				
Pineapple Flavour ...	—	1	1				
Powdered Gelatine ...	—	1	1				
Pudding Mixture ...	—	2	2				
Pudding or Blanc							
Mange Powder ...	—	2	2				
Sage and Onion Stuffing	—	1	1				
Semolina ...	—	1	1				
Soup ...	—	1	1				
Soup Powder	—	2	2				
Spice—Mixed ...	—	2	2				
Sponge Mixture ...	—	1	1				
Sprats—Spiced ...	—	1	1				
Table Dessert ...	—	1	1				
Tomato Sauce ...	—	1	1				
Torox ...	—	1	1				
Vanilla Essence ...	—	1	1				
Veal and Poultry							
Stuffing ...	—	1	1				
Vinegar—Malt ...	—	3	3				
Vinegar—Non-brewed	—	2	2				
Yeast Vite Tablets ...	—	1	1				
Zinc Oxide Ointment	—	1	1				
	39	67	106	Nil.	1	1	

## SECTION 6.

## METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1946.

The Tunbridge Wells Municipal Meteorological Station is an official Auxiliary Station reporting to the Meteorological Department of the Air Ministry. The records are kept by the Staff of the Health Department, and have so been kept since 1st July, 1914.

The instruments are situated in the Calverley Grounds, the station being somewhat in a hollow. This position tends to make the minimum temperature readings lower than they should be, as cold air gravitates to the bottom of hollows.

The sunshine recorder is established at the Earls Court Hotel, and the standard barometer is in the Health Department at the Town Hall.

The usual certificate from the Meteorological Office is suspended until a better site than that in the Calverley Grounds offers itself.

The Observations were made by Mr. A. Barnett, Mr. T. Steel and Mr. T. E. Ellison, members of the Staff of the Health Department.

The total amount of bright sunshine recorded was 1,599 hours 24 minutes, the mean amount being 1,593 hours 30 minutes. The most sunny day was July 25th, 14 hours 12 minutes being recorded. There were 68 sunless days, 66 being the average.

The highest temperature in the sun was 138 degrees on 23rd July.

The mean temperature in the shade for the year was 48.6 degrees, 49.2 being the average.

The mean daily range was 14.6 degrees, the average being 14.4

The temperature in the shade four feet above the ground was highest, 82 degrees, on 2nd, 12th, 13th and 24th July, and lowest, 13 degrees, on the 28th February.

The hottest night was on the 4th July when the temperature did not go below 62 degrees.

The last frost in the air in Spring was on 15th May, and the first in the Autumn on 25th October. The last on the grass in the Spring was on 12th April and the first in the Autumn was on 25th October.

The rainfall amounted to 38.83 inches, the average being 30.59 inches. It fell on 189 days, the average being 173.

The most rain that fell on one day was 2.38 inches on 16th August.

The wind at 9.0 a.m. was North on 28 days, North-East 60 days, East 23 days, South-East 28 days, South 56 days, South-West 89 days, West 49 days and North-West 30 days. On 2 days there was no wind, calm being recorded.

The mean amount of cloud at 9.0 a.m. was 7.1, 6.7 being the average (10 representing overcast sky). Thunder and lightning occurred on 15 days.

There were 6 fogs, and it was misty on 15 other mornings.



METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1946.

Months.	Sunshine.			Rainfall.		Mean Temperature. In shade, 4ft above ground.		Temperature Underground.			
	1946.		32 year Average.	1946.	66 year Average.	1946.	56 year Average.	One Foot.		Four Feet.	
	Hrs. Mins.	Hrs. Mins.	Hrs. Mins.	Inches.	Inches	°F.	°F.	1946.	46 year Average.	1946.	32 year Average.
January ...	73 42	51 24	51 24	2.99	2.81	36.2	38.3	37.1	39.3	42.2	43.2
February ...	66 12	71 30	71 30	3.28	2.27	41.9	39.1	41.3	39.1	42.7	42.2
March ...	98 30	125 24	125 24	1.82	2.23	40.5	42.1	40.3	41.7	41.7	42.9
April ...	210 0	149 6	6	2.10	2.00	49.0	46.8	50.0	47.1	48.3	46.7
May ...	194 30	210 6	6	2.43	1.97	51.0	53.0	54.7	54.4	52.5	51.3
June ...	191 18	217 48	48	3.28	1.88	56.0	58.1	59.6	60.5	56.5	56.7
July ...	267 30	208 30	30	1.81	2.29	62.0	61.6	65.3	63.5	61.6	60.1
August ...	174 0	193 6	6	7.15	2.40	58.5	61.1	62.3	63.1	61.8	61.3
September	115 0	149 36	36	3.54	2.23	57.0	57.1	58.5	59.0	59.0	59.9
October ...	86 24	108 30	30	1.16	3.59	49.7	50.2	53.3	52.5	56.4	56.0
November...	54 0	61 42	42	6.15	3.58	45.9	43.4	46.1	45.9	49.7	50.3
December ...	68 18	46 48	48	3.12	3.35	35.7	39.7	37.4	41.3	44.0	45.7
WHOLE YEAR	1599 24	1593 30	30	38.83	30.60	48.6	49.2	50.5	50.6	51.4	51.3